

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 PC-04 NIC-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 /126 W

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R 112320Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4702

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 0550

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PINT, ES

SUBJ: ELECTIONS 1974: LEGISLATIVE SLATES FILED

REF: SAN SALVADOR 508

1. ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL PRESS, THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL COUNCIL (CCE) REPORTS THAT THE FOLLOWING PARTY TICKETS FOR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES WERE SUBMITTED BY THE FEBRUARY 8 FILING DEADLINE: PCN-ALL 14 DEPARTMENTS; UNO ALL DEPARTMENTS EXCEPT AHUACHAPAN; PPS-FILED FOR DEPARTMENTS OF SAN SALVADOR, SONSONANTE, CHALATENANGO, LA UNION, SANMIGUEL AND USULUTAN; FUDI-FILED FOR SAN SALVADOR AND AHUACHAPAN. DATA HAS NOT YET BEEN RELEASED ON THE NUMBER OF MUNICIPALITIES FOR WHICH EACH PARTY HAS FILED MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES SINCE THESE ARE FIRST REGISTERED IN THE DEPARTMENTAL ELECTORAL COUNCILS. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ELECTORAL LAW, THE CCE MUST RULE ON THE LEGALITY OF THE SLATES WITHIN 10 DAYS.

2. COMMENT: AS NOTED IN REFTTEL, UNO DID NOT REGISTER CANDIDATES FOR AHACHAPAN BECAUSE OF THE DEAL IT HAD ARRANGED WITH FUDI I.E., IT WILL TACITLY SUPPORT FUDI IN THE LEGISLATIVE RACE IN EXCHANGE FOR THE NOMINATION OF MANY UNO ACTIVISTS TO THE FUDI MUNICIPAL TICKETS FOR THE DEPARTMENT. IN THE CASE OF THE PPS, THE FACT THAT IT WAS ABOUT TO FIELD CANDIDATES FOR ONLY 6 DEPARTMENTS (PPS LEADERS HAD HOPED TO RUN SLATES IN AT LEAST 8) REFLECTS THE DIFFICULTY

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THE PARTY HAS HAD IN GETTING ORGANIZED THIS YEAR. ITS PROBLEMS

MAY BE COMPOUNDED SOMEWHAT WITH FUDI RUNNING A LEGISLATIVE SLATE
IN THE CAPITAL SINCE THE TWO RIGHT OF CENTER PARTIES WILL BE
FIGHTING FOR THE LIMITED CONSERVATIVE VOTE AVAILABLE. THE
OPPOSITION PARTIES ARE NOW WAITING TO SEE IF THE CCE WILL ACCEPT
ALL OF THE SLATES OR REJECT SOME ON "TECHNICAL" GROUNDS AS IT
DID IN 1972. ITS RESPONSE WILL ALSO BE A TEST OF THE ASSERTION
OF ONE PCN SOURCE WHO HAS TOLD US THAT THE CCE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED
BY TOP GOVT LEADERSHIP NOT TO CHALLENGE ANY SLATES EVEN IF
CAUSE IS FOUND TO DO SO.
MOSKOWITZ

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NNN

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